



#10046 ANGUS AND THE DUCKS

WESTON WOODS STUDIOS, 1997

Grade Level: K-4

12 mins.

DESCRIPTION

When Angus, a most curious terrier puppy, goes for a walk with his owner, he is puzzled by some strange sounds coming from the other side of the hedge. One day, Angus' front door is conveniently left open, and he gets his chance to investigate. Based on the book by Marjorie Flack.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Behavioral Studies

- Standard: Understands that interactions among learning, inheritance, and physical development affect human behavior
 - ♦ Benchmark: Knows that people use their senses to find out about their surroundings and themselves and that different senses provide different information (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 1.)

Subject Area: Science–Life Sciences

- Standard: Understands relationships among organisms and their physical environment
 - ♦ Benchmark: Knows that an organism's patterns of behavior are related to the nature of that organism's environment (e.g., kinds and numbers of other organisms present, availability of food and resources, physical characteristics of the environment) (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 2.)

Subject Area: Language Arts–Reading

- Standard: Uses reading skills and strategies to understand and interpret a variety of literary texts
 - ♦ Benchmark: Uses reading skills and strategies to understand a variety of familiar literary passages and texts (e.g., fairy tales, folktales, fiction, nonfiction, legends, fables, myths, poems, nursery rhymes, picture books, predictable books) (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 3.)

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To illustrate a story about curiosity and the trouble it can cause.
2. To explore a dog's behaviors and its view of the world.
3. To promote the reading of children's literature.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Based on the book *Angus and the Ducks* by Marjorie Flack.

VOCABULARY

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------|----------------------|
| 1. collar | 6. hedge | 11. park |
| 2. curious | 7. indoors | 12. puppy |
| 3. ducks | 8. leash | 13. Scottish terrier |
| 4. exploring | 9. noises | 14. strange |
| 5. gate | 10. outdoors | 15. watering trough |

BEFORE SHOWING

1. Discuss pets. Share pets' behaviors, personalities, and the ways the pets exhibit their personalities.
2. Talk about curiosity. Discuss the things people are curious about.
 - a. What were you curious about?
 - b. What did you do to satisfy your curiosity?
 - c. When you found out what you were curious about, was it what you expected? How was it different?
 - d. What is the hardest thing about being curious about something?
3. Read the book *Angus and the Ducks* by Marjorie Flack. Discuss what Angus was curious about and how he satisfied his curiosity.

DURING SHOWING

1. View the video more than once, with one showing uninterrupted.
2. Pause when the man turns the old-fashioned radio on. Identify the object as a radio. Explain that people used to listen to shows on the radio before there was TV.

AFTER SHOWING

Discussion Items and Questions

1. Describe the various things that the dogs were curious about at the beginning of the video.
2. Where did the two people take Angus? How did Angus feel about his new home?
3. Explain what kinds of things Angus experienced in his new home.
4. What was the collar for? How did Angus feel about the collar and the leash?
5. Where was Angus's favorite place to go for a walk? Why?
6. What was Angus most curious about on his walks? What was making the strange noise on the other side of the hedge?
7. What strange noises did Angus listen to inside the house?
8. How did Angus get out without his leash? Where did he go? How did he get to the other side of the hedge?
9. Describe what happened while Angus was in the yard with the ducks.
10. Why did Angus run quickly back home?
11. What impact did the duck experience have on Angus?

Applications and Activities

1. Discuss the way Angus satisfied his curiosity in the story. Ask:
 - a. What else could Angus have done to investigate the world beyond the hedge?
 - b. What was wrong with the way Angus had behaved with the ducks?

C a p t i o n e d M e d i a P r o g r a m

- c. What could Angus have done to make friends with the ducks?
- d. How would the end of the story be different if Angus had made friends with the ducks?
2. Visit a pet shop or a petting zoo.
 - a. Note the behaviors of the animals.
 - b. Watch for ways the animals try to communicate with one another, indicate hunger or distress, and exhibit behaviors when they want to play.
3. Dramatize the story of *Angus and the Ducks*. Alternate the parts of the dog, the ducks, the dog owners, and the narrator, so that everyone can participate.
4. Choose one animal. Research the animal's behaviors and communications. Share the information gathered.
5. Investigate Scottish terriers and other types of dogs. Compare different breeds of dogs. Label photos or drawings of dog breeds and display them.

SUMMARY

One day, Angus, a curious little terrier, finds out about the strange noises coming from the other side of the hedge.

CMP RELATED RESOURCES

- [Curious George #9709](#)
- [Corduroy #1854](#)
- [Frog on His own #2385](#)
- [Mole at the Carnival #2314](#)
- [World of Pets: Dogs #2030](#)

World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and "kid safe" sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

• SCOTTIES

<http://www.scotties.com>

Find out more about what kind of dog Angus is in real life. This Web site has information, tips on care, and photos of loveable Scottish terriers.



• DOGS & KIDS SPOT

<http://www.workingdogweb.com/Kids&Dogs.htm>

Check out this Web site full of information and links on dog breeds for kids, advice on kids and dogs, games and play, and a link for kids.